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CITY NEWS

Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

May 5 • May 11, 1999
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Every day is Mother's Day for this Jersey City family

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

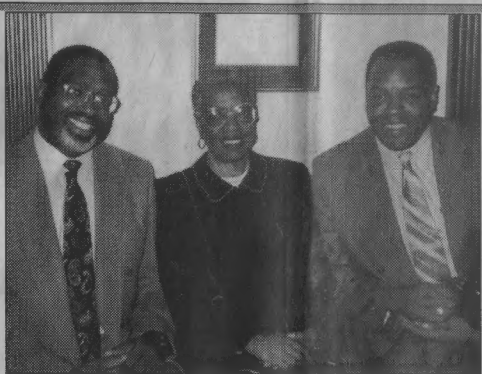
Evelyn Bailey of Jersey City raised two sons successfully, without many of the setbacks that stalk young urban boys. Now, they are following her lead.

Leon Bailey, who is featured in the May edition of the *Minority Business Journal*, and his little brother, Lawrence, grew up with a keen sense of purpose rather than limitation.

"Black mothers, young ones especially, must constantly be made aware that you can never afford to put down that black child," she said in a recent interview. "You should constantly let him know that he is somebody and that no matter what other people say, he can make it."

It's safe to say they have. Leon, 47, is the director of human resources at the Connecticut firm DIANO Systems, and Lawrence is a respected Harlem dentist. The keys to success? Strong faith in God comes first, she says. "Total commitment to His will."

She imparted a deep respect for all women. "I will never forget conversations that my mom had with me," Leon said. "She would always stress that I was to treat all



Humanitarian Evelyn Bailey, a Jersey City retired educator, with sons Lawrence (left) and Leon.

women with the same respect that I would give her. It was a requirement of hers that I open doors and pull out chairs. My mom always wanted there to be a deep appreciation for women and especially mothers, because God has chosen to make them the caretakers of life itself."

He says he wishes all children could know the quality of love he was raised on. "It is my hope that children come to answer powerfully and responsibly the call of nature to further civilization in a way that only mothers can convey, through their love, understanding and nurturing."

Their mother is a living example of strength, determination and social responsibility. With her heart condition, she lives under constant medical care and restricted activity. In 1973, doctors told Evelyn she had three years to live due to life-threatening cancer.

She continued to travel the world and what tirelessly despite the 3-year deadline, volunteering for the American Cancer Society, the NAACP and a women's wellness clinic in Jersey City. "One thing they didn't know: I can't count," she said, laughing.

see MOTHER'S DAY pg 10

Black men and their mothers

By Lucy Schacter
Staff Writer

Everyone has stories about their relationships with their mothers. Whether they are a product of "tough love" or the child of a boisterous woman, author of *Sacred Bond: Black Men and Their Mothers*, and award-winning broadcaster, Keith Michael Brown invites us into the lives of dozens of families most of us can relate to.

Brown shares his experiences with his mom who showed him courage in a moment he least expected. He describes the fatal death of his oldest brother Marc, and the trials his mother went through accepting that Marc was homosexual and suffering from HIV.

"I saw my mother's strength and I understood the depth of her love for us, her three sons. And I painfully understood the depth of my mother's suffering — one-third of everything she and my father had worked and lived for was taken from them. To my mother we were entitled to the world, despite the fact that we were black, poor, and male. What mattered most to her was that we succeed in life regardless of the challenges black males face in this country."

In revealing some of the most crucial moments in their lives, 36 black men ranging from police detectives to actor Malik Yoba share tales of laughter, inspiration, degradation, and compassion. They explore everything from the trials the black woman to her full-time duty as a mother. State Senator, David A. Paterson lost his eyesight when he was a mere six to nine months old. He tells of how his mother refused to treat him as if he was disabled even to go as far as letting him go to public schools and try out for a baseball team. Although he never really grasped her concept of tough love until he was older he now appreciates the challenge that got him through Columbia University all the way to the state senate.



Author Keith Michael Brown with his mother, Constance (left). At top, comedian Herbie Quinones kisses his mom, Ana. At bottom, actor/rapper Malik Yoba puts his arm around his mom, Mahmoudah.

Comedian and educator Herbie Quinones described how his mother Ana Ayala didn't speak to him for two years because he grew dreads. "She thought I had betrayed the Puerto Rican people and had rejected who I was. It's funny, because for me growing locks was the exact opposite. Being a dark-skinned Puerto Rican, I was embracing our African ancestry, something we don't highlight often in Puerto Rican culture."

Quinones grew up in a single parent household where his mom played the supportive and disciplinary role that led him to where he is today.

She taught him not to stifle by burning his hands when she found out he had taken money. Crossing a thin line between abuse and discipline Quinones grew to respect his mother's ways and she grew to respect who he had become.

Story after story one can capture the essence of the vital roles mothers play in raising sons, and in particular, black males. Brown leaves you feeling like you have personally met and lived through the experiences of the men and their mothers. "Sacred Bond: Black Men and Their Mothers," is a must read.

Irington police to track potentially harmful officers for behavioral problems

IRVINGTON — A computer system designed to track erratic, troubling, or the potentially harmful behavior of police officers will be implemented in the Irington Police Department, Mayor Sara B. Best has announced.

The Risk Analysis Management System will assess data extracted from personnel records, police reports, citizen complaints, and other files to determine the extent to which an officer may be "experiencing difficulties," according to IPD Director Robert K. Rankin, Jr.

The system is able to analyze an array of diverse data, from simpler issues, such as extended sick days, to the more complex, like shootings at animals. While reducing sick time may require only a schedule adjustment, from nights to days, form example — a shooting is an automatic indicator for discipline or retraining, or at the very least, the "viability of something being wrong," Rankin explained.

Other actions will raise the system's cau-

tionary flags but may not merit disciplinary action from authorities. Though RAMS will issue warnings for two motor vehicle accidents in a 12-month period, management may determine the officer may need only an eye exam, or that the accident happened while responding to an emergency. However, the director added, the accidents may indicate alcohol and drug problems, especially if an officer hits a fixed object.

A steady stream of complaints about an officer's demeanor will also elicit warnings from the system. But, like the accidents, you have to look at the "totality of the data," Rankin said. RAMS will allow us to do so "more efficiently than ever before."

Complaints from established criminals generally will not spur officials to action, but those from victims will cause us to "look at them very carefully and take the appropriate remedial measures."

Other potential risk factors measured by the system can include tendencies to target certain groups, for example, females, and

certain ethnicity's.

RAMS may also track an officer's propensity for problems in his personal life, such as domestic violence, often the precursor to tragic incidents, both in and outside the home.

Acknowledging that police work is inherently dangerous, demanding and stressful, Rankin said the "system isn't designed to penalize" those who may become involved in unfortunate circumstances during the normal course of duty. Rather, it will help alert those habits and behaviors that could lead to preventable tragedies, in addition to reducing the township's liability for such incidents.

The system will be maintained by the internal affairs unit, the integrity arm of the police department. The IPD should acquire RAMS in about six weeks, it will become operational shortly thereafter.

The system is being used in Newark and is expected to be instituted in Orange, East Orange and Elizabeth, Rankin said.

'The 100' to honor New Jersey's finest

By Lucy Sanchez
Staff Writer

From housewives to business CEOs, City News Publications has reserved the evening of May 6, 1999 to honor 100 of the most influential people in New Jersey. In its fourth year the event has drawn over seven hundred guests who have come to salute the community pioneers. The competitive yet endearing nomination process will culminate in a spectacular evening of music, dinner and most of all appreciation.

Jan Johnson, president and publisher of City News Publishing Company stressed the urgency to host an event such as this during the midst of suffering that is occurring in the world. "During this time when the concentration on such tragedies, many stemming from race, such as profiling in New Jersey, kids killing kids because they are athletes or blunkies, or young men being shot by cops. The 100 presents a ray of light in all this chaos that's going on."

Johnson states the honorees at the 100 show that the majority of society operates for the betterment of humanity. Three citizens who have shown exemplary contributions will be given special tribute during the evening. Johnson stated New Jersey native Bill Freeman, a Bell Atlantic president, has created a whirlwind of activities to create jobs and advance urban communities.

The next honoree, Hortense Ridley Tate will be celebrating 100 years of continuous "struggle, determination, accomplishments, and wisdom." Richard Zahn of Schering Laboratories is the third special honoree.

"Our Eagle Award this year is presented to an individual who leads through his action," said Johnson. "He is committed to making a significant difference in the lives of minority businesses in our state."

The 100 most influential



At 100 years young, retired educator and community activist Hortense Ridley Tate, will receive a special honor during City News' 100 Most Influential Awards Dinner on May 6.

started four years ago because of the need to accent the progress of black people, urban communities and those who have helped their progress in New Jersey. Past honorees include Gov. Christie Whitman, Cissy Houston, National Baseball President Len Coleman, John Amos, and NBC reporter Ti-Hua Chang.

More than 25 major corporations are participating in the 1999 celebration of the City News 100 Most Influential Award. Corporate co-sponsors are Schering-Plough and PSEG.

Additional top sponsors include: AT&T, Shell Atlantic, Dun & Bradstreet and Horizon Mercury.

Additional sponsors include: Chase Manhattan Bank, GPU Energy, Deloitte & Touche; Prudential; Meridian Health Systems; Saint Barnabas Health Care System; United National Bank; WBLIS-FM; Cablevision of Newark and Elizabeth; Coors Light; Bally's Park Place, Bestfoods; Valley National Bank; Horizon Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Jersey; City National Bank; Investors Savings Bank; and PNC Bank and Time Warner.

Funk icon Roger Troutman of the group Zapp found dead

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — R&B star Roger Troutman, who made such hits as "More Bounce to the Ounce" and "I Want to Be Your Man," was fatally shot by his brother, who then killed himself, the coroner's office stated.

Troutman had recorded with the group Roger & Zapp on the Warner Brothers label. The group was known as Zapp before being renamed in 1983.

Larry Troutman shot his brother Sunday and then turned the gun on himself, said Ken Betz, executive director of the Montgomery County coroner's office.

Roger Troutman, 47, was shot twice in the chest and twice in the back, while his brother, 54, suffered a single bullet wound to the head, said Betz. A 357-caliber was used in the revolver, he added.

Betz Troutman was found outside his northwest Dayton recording studio around 7 a.m. Sunday. His brother's body was found in a car a few blocks away.

The motive for the shooting was not immediately clear, Dayton police Detective Carol Johnson said Monday.

"Everything is purely speculative at this moment," she said. "We are interviewing family members and while they speculate to at least try to piece together what happened, or if there were any problems prior to the incident."



Larry Troutman left performing in the mid-'80s to manage the Roger & Zapp group full time. He assumed the presidency of Roger Troutman the growing Dayton-based Troutman Enterprises, which included three recording studios, real-estate ventures and contracting.

"We wanted to thank the hundreds of people that are praying for our family at this most difficult time," the Troutman family said in a statement.

The brothers, natives of Hamilton, were part of the Troutman family of performers that formed Zapp in the 1970s and helped pioneer the rock-funk "Dayton sound."

Roger Troutman also sang solo, recording under the name "Roger." He hit No. 1 in 1987 with the single "I Want to Be Your Man."

Roger Troutman also recorded "California Love," a Grammy-nominated collaboration with hip-hop superstars Tupac Shakur and Dr. Dre. He released a greatest-hits album in 1996.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

WAYNE — William Paterson University will hold a lecture on the Declaration of Independence at the campus's Shea Center beginning at 9:30 p.m. (973) 720-2205.

SCOTCH PLAINS — Union Catholic High School will hold a used clothing drive beginning at 8 a.m. (908) 889-9475.

ORANGE — Tunde Dada House of Africa presents Patti LaBelle signing her new book "LaBelle Cuisine: Recipes to Sing About" beginning at 5 p.m. (973) 873-4446.

SECAUCUS — The Emergency Medical Services Training Center at Meadowlands Hospital will hold open enrollment on basic EMT (Emergency Medical Technician). Call (201) 324-5000 for time of registration.

PLAINFIELD — The Literacy Volunteers of America invites those interested in training adults (to read English) to a training session at the Plainfield Public Library. Call (908) 756-7986.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

FREEHOLD — Single Faces Inc. presents a singles function at the American Hotel beginning at 9 p.m. (732) 462-0819.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) presents the annual spring chess championship beginning at 9 a.m. (201) 200-3426.

TEANECK — The Coalition of 100 Black Women host an art exhibition at Holy Name Hospital's Marian Hall beginning at 10 a.m. (212) 457-1404.

ISELIN — Single Faces Inc. presents a singles function at the Woodbridge Sheraton beginning at 9 p.m. (732) 634-3600.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical Society presents a family day outing beginning at 10 a.m. (973) 586-8500.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) presents the annual spring chess championship beginning at 9 a.m. (201) 200-3426.

TEANECK — The Coalition of 100 Black Women host an art exhibition at Holy Name Hospital's Marian Hall beginning at 10 a.m. (212) 457-1404.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

ISELIN — Single Faces Inc. pre-

sents a singles function at the Woodbridge Hilton beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 494-6200.

MONDAY, MAY 10

NEWARK — Columbus Hospital of Newark will hold its Fourth Annual Golf and Tennis Outing at the Rock Spring Club in West Orange beginning at 8 a.m. (973) 258-3674.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical Society will hold a discussion on America's fascination with cars and history of cars beginning at 5:30 p.m. (973) 586-8500.

MORRISTOWN — The Women's Association of Morristown Memorial Hospital will hold a lecture series on about today's artwork decorating homes at the Octagon Building. Call (973) 425-0424 for time.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

NEW YORK — The City Museum of New York will hold a discussion on the impact of Paul Robeson beginning at 2 p.m. (212) 534-1672.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

WAYNE — William Paterson University will hold a sale on authentic pianos at the campus student center beginning at 10 a.m. (973) 720-2966.

SOMERSET — Single Faces Inc. presents a singles function at McNeely's Restaurant beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 469-2522.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

PLAINFIELD — Sisters of Soul (SOS) presents a "Back to the 70's" dance party at the Mohawk Lounge beginning at 8 p.m. (908) 753-2724.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

NEWARK — The New Jersey Institute for School Innovation presents "1,000 Friends of Public Education" Luncheon honoring Robert Kiley of the New York City Partnership at The Newark Club. Call (973) 621-0831 for time.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

BRADLEY BEACH — The Bradley Beach Parade Committee presents the annual Memorial Day Parade beginning at 10 a.m. (732) 775-0208.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

HOLMDEL — The PhC Bank Arts Center presents Lenny Kravitz beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 333-0400.

A happy Secretary's Day



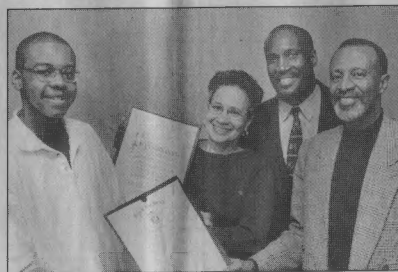
City News Publishing Company thanks Beverly Harden (l) and Diane Folk with special flower bouquets on National Secretary's Day, April 21. Latonya Folk joins her grandmas as she receives the flowers.

Newark, biz leaders march for baby health



The City of Newark and local corporate business leaders recently led a March of Dimes trek to raise awareness for the National March of Dimes walk 1999 Essex County Walk America for healthier babies. Participants include city employees and corporate representatives for PSEG, Kmart, Saint Barnabas Health Care, and First Union National Bank.

Trio Student of the Year is from NJCU



Gregory Mathador (left) of Jersey City's a junior at Dickinson High School who is enrolled in New Jersey City University's Upward Bound Program, was named 1999 Trio Student of the Year at a Trio Day celebration on the university campus held in honor of the nation's five federally-funded Trio programs: Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program. Mathador was congratulated by (from left) Louise Dia director of NJCU's Upward Bound Program; Rev. Maxwell Jones, and Assemblyman Joseph Charles (31st District) of Jersey City.

African Americans and others recall Holocaust



Honoree Otto Sampson Sr. and keynote speaker Elinor Tatum, sitting together during the City of Newark's 12th Annual Holocaust Observance on April 15. The event attracted an audience of approximately 400 from all over NJ. Tatum who is of African-American and Jewish heritage gave a very moving and inspirational address, while Otto Sampson Sr. shared the traumatic experiences he underwent during the Holocaust.

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Business/Evening Attire

Nation Briefs

NOT EVEN COLORADO IS SAFE FROM SHOCK
JOCK HOWARD STERN

DENVER (AP) — Howard Stern and a local radio station that syndicates his show have drawn criticism over the New York shock jock's comments on the Columbine High School massacre.

Stern was quoted by the Rocky Mountain News as saying that some of the girls fleeing from the April 20 shooting were "really good-looking" and wondering on his air whether the suicide bomber tried "to have sex with any of the good-looking girls."

"At least if you're going to kill yourself and kill all the kids, why would you have some sex?" Stern asked, according to the newspaper.

Stern was unavailable for comment. A message left with his agent was not returned.

But KOPK general manager Bob Visotzky said he spoke with Stern on Monday for 20 minutes and reported that Stern "feels that the comments were taken out of context."

NBA STAR, HAKEEM OLAJUWON SENDS RELIEF TO KOSOVO

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Rockets basketball star Hakeem Olajuwon is trying to get children involved with relief efforts for Kosovo refugees.

Olajuwon has agreed to help the Houston office of UNICEF raise \$250,000 to support children in Kosovo. He and Houston Mayor Lee Brown met Tuesday with students who have developed funding projects for refugee kids.

"I feel privileged and am willing to play my role and help encourage people to step up and do something... to take responsibility," Olajuwon said.

NAACP CALLS ON CONGRESS TO ALLOW FEDERAL TRAFFIC STOP STATISTICS

BALTIMORE, MD. — NAACP President and CEO Kwame Mims said that the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate should adopt legislation that would require police departments to collect data to determine the extent racial profiling is used as a basis for traffic stops.

Mims said, "I am going to seriously address the problem of police stopping drivers only because they are African American or some other ethnic minority, we must collect factual data to determine the extent of the problem. So far we have only anecdotal information. Congress should pass the Traffic Stops Statistics Study Act introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mi.), as the first step to produce the much-needed study."

The Conyers bill would require the U.S. Department of Justice to conduct the study of routine traffic stops by police agencies. Limited studies show that while African Americans make up less than 15 percent of the driving population, 72 percent of all routine traffic stops occur with African Americans.

DIMAGGIO HONORED WITH RENAMING OF WEST SIDE HIGHWAY

NEW YORK (AP) — The West Side Highway was renamed for the late great Joe DiMaggio in a ceremony Sunday attended by his granddaughters, Yankees owner George Steinbrenner and veteran broadcaster Phil Rizzuto. Members "The Hall of Fame" ceremony is going to be looking down at the Yankees and he's going to be really proud," said Rizzuto, 61.

The statue in the stadium's Memorial Park will join monuments to Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Mickey Vernon and Miller Huggins, who managed the Yankees from 1918 to 1929.

The state Legislature voted unanimously to rename the highway, which runs north-south in Manhattan along the Hudson River, between Battery Place and West 72nd Street.

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Why did the trechcoat mob go unnoticed?

By David Foster

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris barfed inside at Jews, blacks and Hispanics at Columbine High School. But they REALED the athletes, who had power and popularity — everything they didn't.

"All jocks stand up!" one of the athletes bellowed during their murderous spree Tuesday. "We're going to kill every one of you."

They killed 13 people in the deadly attack during their rampage. Then Klebold and Harris turned their guns on themselves.

As horrible as their assault on classmates was, it did not come out of the blue: Klebold, Harris and others in a band of outcasts who called themselves the Trechcoat Mafia had a long-running feud with Columbine athletes.

Identifying teens who may harm others

NEWARK — The Violence Institute of New Jersey University of Medicine and Dentistry released the following information to help parents and identify warning signs and solutions for adolescents that may harm others. What to look for:

The behavioral indicators described below are useful in identifying adolescents (13 to 19 year olds) who may physically harm their fellow students or their teachers (or may harm themselves). Still, we cannot predict exactly who will harm others and in what circumstances they will do so.

Some of the behavioral patterns, however, nearly always need some sort of assistance.

Remember: You are looking for patterns, behavior, not isolated incidents.

1. **Social Isolation:** Few or no friends, hardly ever speaks to peers during breaks.

2. **Despair:** Lack of enjoyment or fun in life and/or hopelessness about the possibility of life getting better.

3. **Anger:** Nearly always seems angry or feels persecuted.

4. **Threats:** Angerily threatens to harm others, particularly if specific plans to harm someone are articulated.

5. **Poor Impulse Control:** Emotionally impulsive and tends to respond aggressively before thinking or talking.

6. **Defiance of Authority:** Repeated pattern of not listening to authority figures or believes rule not apply to him/her.

7. **Extreme Self-Centeredness:** Repeatedly ignores the feelings or thoughts of others.

8. **Obsession with Weapons:** Fascinated with guns, knives, bombs, or other weapons or brings a weapon to school or is known to carry a weapon.

9. **Obsession with Violence and Death:** Regularly talks or writes about violence and death.

10. **Exposure to Violence:** Has witnessed serious interpersonal violence or harm to has been physically abused or has experienced a recent death of a family member, friend, or classmate.

11. **Chronic Truancy:** Repeated absence from school.

12. **Extreme Mood Swing:** Feelings shift from very happy to very angry or very sad without an obvious compelling reason.

13. **Drug Use:** Possession or Use of drugs/alcohol or clear signs of drunkenness or drug-induced behavior.

To most instances, adolescents behave problematically because something is not right in their lives. Typically, what they need most is to speak with a caring and empathic adult or peer about their problems. It is important to strike an appropriate balance between the need to punish and restrain violent

including a recent confrontation in which the "mafiosi" showed up carrying swords and brass knuckles.

The Trechcoat Mafia has no secret society. Members posed for a yearbook photo last year. They had their own secret spot in the cafeteria, near the stairs. They wore black trench coats — no matter the season — and berets with German crests. They spoke in a specific code. They spoke constantly of war and guns, and Harris had made a video at school in which he bragged about his new guns.

It felt like the kids of Columbine were concerned — and some now say they were — they said little to adults, figuring they could handle these troublesome misfits themselves.

If teachers and police noticed, they passed it off as teen-age rebellion, unpopular kids looking for a sense of belonging.

And if parents like Steve Cohn worried about their children's safety, they resented "easy" knowing that Columbine High was the nicest of schools in the nicest of areas.

"We moved here 11 years ago because of the schools," Cohn said. "It's been a great neighborhood. Until now."

Cohn's son, Aaron, 15, narrowly escaped execution Tuesday. Lying on his stomach in the library, Aaron covered as one of the masked gunmen leveled a shotgun at his head. A few moments earlier, a girl had jumped on Cohn's back, covering the baseball glove on his shirt. The gunman moved on and chose another victim.

The Trechcoat Mafia's interest in Hitler and World War II was well-known around school. They played war games and bragged about their guns. Harris and Klebold sometimes spoke

German in the hallways and made references to "4-20," the slang for marijuana. Aaron Cohn, who lives five doors down from the tidy, two-story home on a quiet cul-de-sac where Harris' family moved in a couple years ago. The massacre took place on Hitler's birthday.

Cohn said Harris, 18, was nonetheless a quiet kid who hadn't caused him any problems in the past. Other neighbors echoed that.

By all accounts, they held a special hatred for athletes at Columbine. Cohn returned in good measure. John Davien said his teen-age son, a jock, almost got into a fight with them last year, but Davien talked him out of it.

The hostilities resumed this year. "A couple of months ago, the jocks were supposed to fight them," said Cohn, a football player. They made a date to rumble: a Friday night at a baseball field. The jocks showed up, but the

Trenchcoats were two hours late, and they went to the wrong spot, Good said. They also showed up carrying swords and brass knuckles — not the jocks' idea of a clean fight.

School officials said they didn't have discipline problems with Klebold or Harris, and they passed under the radar of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, said spokesman Steve Davis.

After the shooting, investigators questioned other members of the band and said there was no indication other members took part in the actual shooting.

Steve Cohn finds it hard to believe that school authorities or police didn't notice the group.

"Wasn't it obvious, to someone?" he asked. "All the kids knew about it. You'd think a teacher would say, 'You'd think the sheriff's department would know.'"

Complaints against police up 4.1 percent last year

By Donna De La Cruz

NEW YORK (AP) — The city's Civilian Complaint Review Board received nearly 5,000 complaints of police misconduct in 1998, most of which were found to be substantiated and referred to the police commissioner for disciplinary action.

The number of complaints — 4,962 — increased by 4.1 percent over 1997, when 4,768 complaints were filed, the board said in a report issued Thursday. Blacks filed the majority of complaints, and white officers received the most complaints.

The 40,000-member force is 67 percent white, while only 43 percent

of the city's population is white, according to police and 1990 Census figures. Blacks make up 13 percent of the department, though New York is 26 percent black. Hispanics make up 17 percent of police, but the city is 24 percent Hispanic.

The 362-member Street Crime Unit, under severe criticism since four of its officers killed Amadou Diallo in a hail of bullets in February, had 59 complaints filed against officers last year, down 35.2 percent from 91 in 1997. However, the size of the unit tripled in 1997.

The CCRB investigates allegations of police misconduct and decides whether to pass cases on to the police commissioner, who makes

the final decision on disciplinary officers.

In 1998, the board conducted 2,584 investigations — of that number, 300 were found to be substantiated and forwarded to Police Commissioner Howard Safir. Above of authority was the No. 1 gripe against cops in 1998 was 2,646 complaints of excessive force, with 2,415 complaints, discourtesy with 2,005 complaints and 374 offensive language complaints.

Blacks filed 1,797 complaints in 1998, followed by 822 complaints filed by Hispanics, 817 by whites and 150 by other ethnic groups. White officers received 1,868 complaints, Hispanics 591, blacks 447, and other ethnicity's 43.

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From solitary confinement to a managerial position

By Andrew Selucky

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — For many of those who fought white rule, the path traveled in just a few years is dizzyingly far.

In the 1970s, Herbert Mabuza was a student activist in the Soweto black township. He was often thrown into jail, once spending 18 months in solitary confinement.

Through that long, lonely period he staved off boredom and anguish by imagining he was visiting friends in other black townships.

"I wouldn't take a bus. I'd walk to their homes, seeing in my mind miles was passing — a shop here, a name of people there. I walked round and round my cell," Mabuza recalls.

All the while, hatred festered. "There was a time when I couldn't imagine myself sitting across from a white person and having a name. They were enemies," Mabuza says at a cafe in Rosebank, an upscale shopping and nightclub district in Johannesburg.

Inspired by Nelson Mandela's spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation, Mabuza swallowed his hatred — "We've moved on" — and now is an assistant managing editor at South Africa's largest newspaper.

He worked his way up the ladder at the Sunday Times, starting as a photographer in 1992 and joining management in 1995. One resented white photographer initially refused to give Mabuza's orders, but began doing so after discovering he had firing power.

Happy that he has a job, a nice house — in a predominantly white neighborhood — and a good living to provide for his wife and two daughters, Mabuza is not particularly ambitious to achieve more. But he wants more for South Africa.

"I want growth in the country, job growth and the rule of law. We also need to battle crime," Mabuza says. "I want to visit my parents in Soweto and not have crime the number one thing on everyone's mind."

BUSINESS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MAY 7

PLAINFIELD — The YWCA and the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NJAWBO) will offer a workshop on business ownership to low-income women at the United National Bank Community Education Center beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 756-7012.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

NEW YORK — The New York State Society of CPAs' Cooperation with Financial Media Committee will hold a seminar on reading and understanding financial statements at their offices beginning at 8:30 a.m. (212) 719-8405.

TRENTON — The U.S. Small Business Administration will conduct a seminar on financial and technical assistance for small business at Two Gateway Center beginning at 4 p.m. (609) 645-2434.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

JAMESBURG — The New Jersey Chamber of Commerce will host a breakfast with state treasurer James DiStefano at the Forsgate Country Club beginning at 8 a.m. (609) 989-7688.

MONDAY, MAY 17

NEWARK — The Regional Business Partnership will hold its 11th Annual Awards Breakfast at the Newark Club beginning at 8 a.m. (973) 522-0099.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

UNION — The Union County Economic Development Corporation presents its Seventh Annual Networking Cruise. Call (908) 527-1126 for time and location.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

NEW YORK — The Minority Business Enterprises Legal Defense & Education Fund will hold a seminar on "Small Business Development, Business Certification & Eligibility." Call 1-800-357-8369 for location.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

TEANECK — The Port Authority of New Jersey and New York and the New Jersey Jersey Maritime Authority will present 1999 Maritime & Business Expo at the Marriott at Glenside Hotel. Call (212) 582-2334 for location.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

QUEENS, NY — The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey and Queens Air Services Development Office presents the 17th Annual Aviation Networking Conference at the Queens Plaza at LaGuardia Airport. Call (718) 244-6852.

Jim Florio awards \$99,000 housing grant to Paterson

TRENTON — Jim Florio, the chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York and former New Jersey governor, announced that the bank has awarded a \$99,000 housing grant to INCM for Housing, Inc. to fund 11 affordable housing units in Paterson in partnership with a minority-owned bank.

The \$99,000 grant will be used to help renovate a partially vacant four-story, 11 unit apartment building into a cooperative for very low- and low-income families. The goal of this conversion from rental to cooperative ownership is to enhance community stability and provide an ownership opportunity for very-low-income households.

The application for the funds was submitted by City National Bank of New Jersey, a minority-owned and operated bank whose locations include Newark and Paterson.

"INCM's initiative is a great example of how a community organization and community-oriented financial institution can work together to improve the lives of those we both proudly serve," said Louis Prezauro, president and Chief Operating Officer of City National.

"CNB stands committed to participate in the efforts which promote the revitalization and stabilization of com-



Former Gov. Florio, Chairman, Federal Home Loan Bank Femi Ayodeji, Chairman, INCAA for Housing, Inc. Arnez Crookert, Executive Director, INCAA for Housing, Inc. Vercia Smith, President, VMC Management Corp. Stanley Weeks, Sr. VP, City National Bank.

munities, especially in areas like Paterson, where we recently expanded our operations."

Florio said the Home Loan Bank "is proud to play a part in the affordable housing initiative to help make the lives of people better and our communities stronger."

The residents will be responsible for the financial and physical management of the building. The Urban Home-

steadling Assistance Board will provide training to the residents which covers financial planning and budgeting, building maintenance, group decision making and problem solving and organizational strategies.

Additional financing for the \$502,000 project include the City of Paterson HOME funds, and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

NJ launches business Website

TRENTON — Corporate executives, relocation consultants and entrepreneurs around the world considering New Jersey as a business venue can now access a vast bank of decision-critical information about the state with a few clicks and a mouse.

Recently, Governor's "Gail" Medina, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission, unveiled the New Jersey Business Resource Center, a comprehensive Web-based information resource about New Jersey that can be accessed by connecting to www.njbiz.org. The new Web site was introduced at NJ Commerce's regular board of directors meeting.

"The New Jersey Business Resource Center has enabled us to increase the velocity of our marketing efforts," Secretary Medina said.

"The faster we furnish the right information about New Jersey to the business community the faster they will see that New Jersey has exactly the features they need, offering an unparalleled environment in which to do business."

The New Jersey Business Resource Center is the first "open" state economic development Web site in the nation that does not require the user to register

or fill-out complex questionnaires to access the site's content.

When connected to the site, the user can immediately access hundreds of charts on over 60 subjects.

Data on the state's population, area and income are readily available. For instance, including industry profiles, business incentives and financing, tax data, international business and more. Moreover, many of the charts can be printed or downloaded for use in popular word processing and spreadsheet software packages.

"Although the NJBRC is an 'open' site that can be accessed by anyone, anywhere in the world, we envision the primary beneficiaries of its specialized content to be economic development analysts, chief financial officers, corporate relocation consultants and business owners looking at New Jersey as business venue," Secretary Medina added.

The New Jersey Business Resource Center provides easy access to information on state business programs, including targeted employee hiring incentives, relocation and tax credits.

Information on New Jersey's multi-million dollar financing programs is also available through the site. The user can learn about bond financing, community lending, direct

loans, like those offered by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority; loan guarantees, long-term fixed asset loans, low-interest fixed assets and even statewide loan pools for businesses.

NJ Commerce coordinates efforts with government and private economic development resources to provide a broad range of technical, financial and other assistance services to the business community.

The New Jersey Business Resource Center is part of the state's multifaceted mission to communicate to the world that New Jersey is a premier business address and the best place to live! work! vacation and prosper.

In addition to the New Jersey Business Resource Center, business people can learn about the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission by connecting to www.state.nj.us/commerce.

Financial planning and exercise



Dale Caldwell

In my last two columns, I pointed out that maintaining your physical health is one of the most important things you can do to enhance your financial health. When you minimize your medical expenses, you can increase the amount of money that you invest. The response to these columns has been very positive, and several people asked me about exercise. I therefore discuss the importance of exercise this week.

I am a strong believer in intense exercise. Over the last five years I have spent a great deal of time cross training for triathlons, duathlons and tennis tournaments. I had so much fun cross training by biking and swimming I decided to figure out a way I can cross train using other sports. I therefore devised the "Running Equivalent (RE) System." In this system I use running 1 mile as the base. In other words, running 1 mile = 1 RE. I assigned RE ratings to numerous other sports based on how I feel they compare to running.

These assignments are not scientifically based and depend on how intensely you train, but they are good guidelines. However, if you are interested in developing more accurate RE's you should compare different activities based on the number of calories burned. For example, if you burn 200 calories to run a certain distance and bike a different distance then you should determine the RE conversion based on this ratio. Everyone who has tried the RE System has found that it makes exercise a lot more fun. Because exercising using the RE system is much more fun people who use this system exercise that much more. I encourage each of you to try this system and try to average 7 to 14 RE's a week. Nevertheless, everyone is different so remember to contact your physician before beginning any exercise program.

I have listed below my personal "RE Conversion Table." Remember these conversions may not apply to you. However, feel free to use these as guidelines in your own exercise program.

R.E. CONVERSION TABLE

1 Running Equivalent = 1 RE. = Running 1 Mile

- 10 Minutes of Running (Average Man) = 1 RE
- 12 Minutes of Running (Average Woman) = 1 RE
- Swimming 25 Miles = 1 RE
- 15 Minutes of Swimming = 1 RE
- Biking 4 Miles = 1 RE
- 15 Minutes of Basketball = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Walking = 1 RE
- 20 Minutes of Aerobics = 1 RE
- 20 Minutes of Toning/Weightlifting = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Skiing = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Canoeing = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Roller Blading = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Ice Skating = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Volleyball = 1 RE
- 9 Holes of Golf (No Cart) = 1 RE
- 18 Holes of Golf (With a Cart) = 1 RE
- 30 Minutes of Touch Football = 1 RE
- 20 Minutes of Racquetball (Squash) = 1 RE
- 40 Minutes of Baseball (Softball) = 1 RE
- 20 Minutes of Soccer = 1 RE

You should set a weekly and total RE goal for 1999. Record how many RE's you complete each day in 1999. At the end of the year review your RE record sheet to determine how you can improve on your exercise program in 2000.

By using the RE Conversion Table you will be able to improve your health through exercise. Exercising is an excellent way to stay healthy and avoid costly medical bills. By minimizing these bills you will have more money to achieve your financial planning goals.

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Religion

City News 6

May 5 — May 11, 1999

RELIGION CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 6

NEWARK — Newark Symphony Hall presents David E. Talbert's Gospel Musical "Mr. Right Now" beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 643-8009.

NEW YORK — The Beacon Theater presents the gospel musical "Lord, Why Do I Keep Choosing The Wrong Man" beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 496-7070.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

NEWARK — The African Globe Arts & Entertainment in association with Newark Symphony Hall presents a gospel showcase concert beginning at 6 p.m. (973) 624-1594.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

PATERSON — New Christian Tabernacle Church Family will host a mortgage burning program at New Christian Tabernacle Church (God in Christ) beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Life after drug addiction

PLAINFIELD — The First Park Baptist Church, 315 West 7th St., Plainfield, will host the women's team of Teen Challenge Philadelphia during the 11 a.m. service Sunday, May 16, 1999. The women will share dramatic stories of how their lives were transformed by accepting salvation through Jesus Christ.

"We invite Central New Jersey residents to bring daughters, sisters and older women who need to hear this healing message," said Pastor Allan Jackson. "Those who heard the moving testimonies presented by Teen Challenge men's team at First Park last November are witnesses that this interdenominational evangelical program is an effective cure for the drug addiction," said Pastor Allan Jackson. "The testimonies of changed lives by the women's team provides opportunity for further discussion of ways Christ's in New Jersey can build on the foundations for recovery and rehabilitation established by the Pennsylvania-based Teen Challenge organization."

Hosting Teen Challenge testimonial teams is an example of how the Word of God is being proclaimed and creative ways at First Park Baptist. Members are equipped to fulfill the Great Commission and multiethnic mandate through on the job training. For more information about Teen Challenge and First Park Baptist ministries of evangelism, call (908) 756-5322 weekdays during business hours.

'Mr. Right Now' comes to Newark

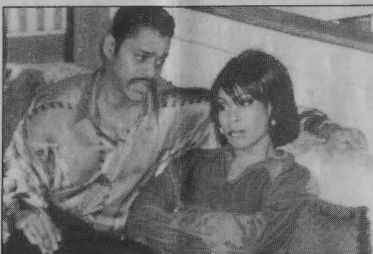
NEW YORK — Award-winning playwright/director David E. Talbert's "Mr. Right Now," national tour comes to the Newark Symphony Hall in Newark, New Jersey on Thursday, May 6 at 8:00 p.m. The musical stage play stars television and film actor Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs and gospel recording artist Karen Clark-Sheard.

David E. Talbert's "Mr. Right Now" features a dynamic cast with show stopping gospel and R&B performances. It tells the story of Angel Jackson, a successful single career woman looking for Mr. Right and along the way she finds herself in a series of bad relationships because she has settled for Mr. Right Now.

Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs has been working as an actor since he was 14. In 1979 he starred in the Broadway production of "I Love My Wife," as well as the Los Angeles productions of "Cerebrum in Dark Old Men, The Mighty Chain" among others. He recently gained critical acclaim for his portrayal of Joseph Jackson in the ABC-TV's mini series The Jacksons: An American Dream. Television viewers also remember him as Larry in the hit comedy series "Welcome Back Kotter." His numerous film and television credits include "Cooler High," "Diagnosis Murder," "Moesha" and "Martin" to name a few.

Karen Clark-Sheard is the gospel diva of the 90's her solo album "Finally Karen" has eight Stellar Award nominations and she was the recipient of the 1998 Our Lady Of Soul Award.

As a member of the renowned Clark Sisters, she helped take gospel music into a new era. Their first album changed contemporary gospel



(L to R): Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs and Karen Clark-Sheard are currently starring in the national tour of David E. Talbert's "Mr. Right Now."

forever with the crossover hit "You Brought the Sunshine" and with her sisters she has garnered three Grammy nominations, two Gospel Music Workshop of America Excellence Awards, an NAACP Award, a Stellar Award and a Dove Award.

David E. Talbert currently the most produced playwright in American Theatre having written, directed and produced seven national stage plays in seven years. "Mr. Right Now" premiered in 1998 as his 7th play. Since 1991 his plays "Telling It Like It Is," "Tiz, Lawd! Ha! Mercy," "What Goes Around Comes Around," "He Say, She Say, But What Does God Say?" "A Fool and His Money," and "Talk Show Live" have been seen by nearly 1.5 million African-American theatergoers.



Karen Clark-Sheard

Magic Johnson's faith keeps him alive

By Yolanda Young

(NPA) — Growing up I was a soloist in the St. Peter Baptist Church Youth Choir. When the youth choir sang, the ladies in the pews would stand on their feet, wave their hands, shout Hallelujah, and sometimes they'd even chant the Holy Ghost and shout. The men, meanwhile, leaned their heads forward and back, occasionally saying "and that, say that."

It was sometime early in high school, when my friend, Rose, heard our choir and delivered to me the crushing revelation that neither our choir nor I could sing. She explained that the

choir was reestablished after I had that my voice cracked when I tried to hit the high notes.

I asked my mother what I should do. I hoped to gain by convincing their youth that they could do something they clearly could not. Momma responded that there was no deception involved; that the church was rejecting us for our effort and the potential we showed. It seemed she said, that the more we believed we could sing, the better we sounded.

Her words came back to me recently as I sat perched on my stationary bike, sweating and spinning steadily while distracting myself with "People Magazine's 25 Years Anniversary

Issue." Irving "Katt" Johnson was featured along with his wife and three children in the magazine's Profiles in Courage section.

I stared down at a strong, healthy and happy "Magic" who sat next to his beautiful wife and dumpy-looking kids. I saw in Magic's eyes the same determined spirit he'd shown us almost 10 years ago when he announced he was infected with the HIV virus that causes AIDS. He announced to the world that although he'd contracted the virus to a deadly disease, he was not going to die. I remember him saying convincingly to an unconvincing crowd that he was going to beat this.

I remember shaking my head thinking sadly, "Wow, Magic, you are going to die. You are rich and strong, but you'll be lucky if you make it to the end of the century able to suck juice from a straw." I'm certain that everyone else was thinking exactly as I was. His doctors may have given him some encouragement, but in 1991, years before cocktail inhibitors and trial vaccines, the outlook was bleak. The fact was people with the virus eventually got AIDS and died.

What Magic believed that he could survive AIDS? Was it the money and the fame? Rock Hudson had money, and Arthur Ashe had fame.

They both died. Magic Johnson lived because he believed he would.

Magic has said that his faith comes from his belief in Jesus Christ, which was instilled in him by his mother. Magic confirmed what we suspected was true...what we are taught as children will shape what we become. Magic didn't wake up one day and out of the blue think that he could beat death. It started with his mother telling him that he could do whatever he put his mind to. He could smile the brightest, jump the highest, love the hardest, and yes — that he could sing.

Who taught you to believe? E-mail me at yolanda_young@yahoo.com.

POSITIVELY BLACK

Divine Discontent

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

(NPA) — Someone once said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." Honestly evaluating your life, are you satisfied and happy? Or do you feel there is more you could do, be, or have that would make your life worthwhile and fulfilling?

There is nothing wrong with feeling dissatisfied with your life in life. If you have not reached or even begun to actualize your innate gifts and potential, it is quite natural to be frustrated and dissatisfied. The dissatisfaction and gnawing sense of frustration you feel is what I call divine discontent. It is your soul's (your higher self's) way of motivating you to be more, to entertain the possibilities and expand your horizons. It has nothing to do with past failures or not getting what you want out of life. Essentially your frustration is due to you not being your truest and fullest self.

Remember, we are self-actualizing human beings. Fulfilling our potential is far more important than merely making a living. Your discontent is your higher consciousness' way of getting your attention, just as pain is a signal that something is wrong. It makes sense that if we are created with a specific purpose and plan that the Creator would communicate with us to tell when we're off track or not in harmony with the divine plan for our lives.

Success is our birthright. Each of us was miraculously equipped at birth to handle the vicissitudes of life. All we lack are the experiences, the ups and downs needed to test our resolve, strengthen our mental muscles and challenge us to reach our fullest potential. Life is lived from the inside out. We were encoded at birth with gifts, talents,

aptitudes and precivisions (some more latent than others), waiting to be mined and expressed. Our dissatisfaction is our inner self's subtle way of prompting us to get on track, on purpose. It may be something as simple as changing jobs or as monumental as transforming ourselves from the inside out.

But if when you evaluate your life, you are not satisfied with what you see, step back and look at the choices you have made over the years. Look at the people you associate with, examine your belief system, your self-image and what you think is possible for you.

Racism is a given. So are all the other "isms" that plague our culture. They are factors, but so are gravity, atmospheric and environmental constraints, conditions we deal with and navigate every day. Too many of our people persevered, overcame and succeeded despite the virulent and imperceptible oppression that are the hallmarks of American culture, to use racism as an excuse. God is bigger than bigotry! MAAT supersedes bigotry and ignorance.

Because discontent is urging you to tap into your inner resources, including your wisdom and intuition to forge a way out of nowhere.

We are responsible for the quality of our lives. We were not meant to be passive victims or vicarious observers of life. So, it is only natural that with all this genius in our genes, our higher selves would be disappointed at the choices we have made, which have allowed our talents to atrophy. It is spir- it's way of waking us up, shaking us gently at first, then more persistently when we refuse to act on our dissatisfaction. The only cure is to actualize our limitless genetic potential and possibilities.

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HeartBeat

CITY NEWS 7

May 5 — May 11, 1999

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center will hold a support group for women who are breastfeeding at the hospital's board room beginning at (732) 937-8820.

MONTCLAIR — The Eastern School of Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine will hold an open house of its facility beginning at 7 p.m. (973) 748-8717.

ELIZABETH — Elizabeth General Medical Center will offer free screenings for anxiety sufferers beginning at 10 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

MONTGOMERY — The Carrier Foundation will hold a discussion on Cognitive Enhancement in Alzheimer's Disease and Therapies at the Alzheimer's Association beginning at 12 p.m. (908) 281-1481.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center will hold a support group for those suffering Hepatitis C at the hospital's board room beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732) 937-8820.

MONDAY, MAY 10

NEW YORK — The Lindesmith Center presents a discussion on drug market in the New York/New Jersey area at the Open Society Institute beginning at 4 p.m. (212) 548-0695.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center will offer a support group for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients beginning at 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

NEWARK — The University Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) will hold a day long forum on educating health professionals for culturally competent care beginning at 8 a.m. (973) 972-4287.

Free support group embraces individuals living with HIV/AIDS

FLORHAM PARK — For individuals who are HIV positive and living in the suburbs, there is finally a place to turn for support, information and a connection with others. Jewish Family Service of MetroWest and Family Connections run a bi-weekly support group for adults infected with HIV/AIDS who are in stable health and looking to get on with the rest of their lives.

The group, which meets Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., is

currently accepting new members. Participation in the group is free.

"The individuals who have been participating in the HIV Support Group have been able to greatly reduce their sense of isolation," said Howard Cutler, Licensed Certified Social Worker and Coordinator of HIV/AIDS Services for JFS.

"The group offers a relaxed setting where members can talk openly about their social relationships, sexual issues, work, medications, and get

to know other people dealing with the challenges of living with HIV. Talking and sharing with others in the same situation is so important because it validates one's feelings and removes the burden of feeling alone," said Cutler.

The HIV Support Group also provides information about disability and health benefits, prescription coverage, and medications. The group will help individuals consider the impact of work or

school on their identity, social relationships, and daily stress, and give them the opportunity to explore if and how their values may have changed due to the HIV/AIDS and what direction feels right for them.

The HIV Support Group is funded by the United Way of Millburn/Short Hills. For more information about the HIV/AIDS Support Group, please call Howard Cutler at, (973) 740-1233.

American diet puts minorities at high risk for diseases

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans may contribute to the disproportionate toll of certain diseases among racial minorities reports a study to be released this week in the April issue of the Journal of the National Medical Association (JNMA).

The study's authors found that minorities have higher rates of hypertension, diabetes, prostate cancer, and obesity than Caucasians and that federal food policy doesn't promote diets low enough in fat and rich enough in plant products to help reduce their risk of these conditions.

"Weak guidelines increase the risk of disease in all Americans, but take a disproportionate toll among minorities," says Milton Mills, an African-American physician.

In conjunction with the study's publication, PCRM has launched a campaign urging the federal government to modify its guidelines to better meet the needs of all Americans.

"The guidelines should encourage those who wish to lower their risk of disease to reduce or eliminate their consumption of meat, dairy, and other fatty foods and increase their use of 'vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and legumes,'" says Barnard, PCRM's president.

Prostate cancer treatment

By Marilyn Johnson Kondwani

(NINA) — Most men with prostate cancer live to enjoy a normal lifespan and a high quality of life. Because every man is different, each requires different treatment and responds differently to the treatment. While the outcome of any treatment cannot be guaranteed, a better understanding of the most common ones, their risks, and side effects are listed below. Knowing them can help you work with your doctor to make the best decision to control your condition now and in the future. Once your doctor has diagnosed, graded, and staged your condition, and if the "watch and wait treatment" is not an option for you, here are the treatments they will most likely present to you.

The Radical Prostatectomy: This operation removes the entire prostate gland and some surrounding tissue. It is used most often if the cancer has not spread outside of the gland. This operation is performed while the man is under general anesthesia (asleep and totally unconscious) or under epidural anesthesia (the same type of anesthesia given to women to numb the lower half of the body during childbirth). The operation can last from one and a half to four hours depending upon the type of surgery and how much of the surrounding tissue must be removed.

Radiation Therapy: Radiation therapy uses high-energy rays to kill cancer cells. It is sometimes used to treat cancers that are confined to the prostate gland or has spread to nearby tissue. In the advanced stages radiation may be used to reduce the size of the tumor and to provide relief from present and future symptoms. Radiation usually eliminates the need for surgery. However, men who do not have a good response to radiation therapy may still have surgery at a later time.



Hormonal Therapy: A variety of hormonal treatments are used when prostate cancer has metastasized (spread to other parts of the body) or has returned after treatment. The goal of hormone therapy is to lower levels of the male hormone androgens, of which the most common is testosterone. Androgens are mainly produced in the testicles and cause prostate cancer cells to grow. Lowering the level of andro-

gens can shrink cancer cells and make them grow more slowly. The treatment methods can range from taking hormone pills and injections of hormones to surgical removal of the testicles or a combination of any or all of the above.

Chemotherapy: Chemotherapy is used for patients whose cancer has spread outside of the prostate gland and for those who have no success with hormonal therapy. Chemotherapy has shown only limited success in treating advanced stages of the disease, however, it may slow tumor growth and reduce pain.

Chemotherapy has not been found to be effective in early stages of prostate cancer. Chemotherapy anti-cancer drugs are injected into a vein, muscle, or taken by mouth at a doctor's office, outpatient clinic or sometimes even at home. Chemotherapy kills cancer cells, but it can also damage some normal cells. Because chemotherapy requires very careful maintenance, sometimes a hospital stay will be required to monitor the dosage of the drugs and to help deal with any side effects.

Treatment of Pain: Pain is one of the most common in the advanced stages of prostate cancer. You should feel free to tell your doctor about any pain you may be experiencing. Relieving pain and other symptoms can improve your quality of life. Some studies have shown that cancer patients who receive treatment for pain may live longer than those who do not.

Mother's Day mammograms

CAMP HILL, Pa. — From MTV to Revlon model to actress, Daisy Fuentes is

now a household name with viewers across the world. The first crossover VJ to appear on both the Spanish language MTV Latino and the Daisy Fuentes original MTV

Fuentes has co-hosted several programs on the cable music network (including One on One with Michael Jordan and Fashionably Loud) and has been a host on MTV International and MTV Latino, as well as hosting MTV's House of Style.

Daisy, whose mother is a breast cancer survivor, is an advocate of women's health. She enjoys promoting positive, healthy messages, especially among the Hispanic community. Daisy is currently involved with Mother's Day Mammograms, a program that connects uninsured women who cannot afford regular mammograms with free screenings at local hospitals.

While all women are at risk for breast cancer, it increases with age and among women who have a mother, daughter or sister with breast cancer, according to the American Cancer Society (ACS).

With nearly 179,000 new cases in 1998, breast cancer is the most frequent non-kid malignancy diagnosed in women in the United States, according to the ACS.

In 1999, an estimated 44,000 women will die of breast cancer nationwide. Breast cancer accounts for one out of every three cancer diagnoses in the United States.

Beginning at age 20, all women should have a clinical breast exam every three years. After age 40, every woman should have a clinical breast exam every year. Women should consult with their physician or healthcare provider on when to start getting mammograms.



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NJ KidCare is a program of the New Jersey Department of Human Services. Contact: Public Information Services.

Artz Wednesday

May 11, 1999

City News 8

Billboard

THURSDAY, MAY 6

NEWARK — Newark Symphony Hall presents David E. Talbot gospel play "We Right Now" beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 624-1584.

NEW YORK — The Beacon Theater presents the gospel play "Lord, Why do I Keep Choosing The Wrong Man" beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 496-7070.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents Diane Schuur and the Duke Ellington Orchestra beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 240-7469.

NEWARK — The African Globe Arts & Entertainment in association with Newark Symphony Hall presents an R&B showcase at the African Globe Theater inside Newark Symphony Hall beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 624-1584.

NEW YORK — New Federal Theater presents the story of actress Rose McClendon in "Rose McClendon: Harlem's Gift to Broadway" at the Abrons Art Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. (212) 278-4200.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Dance Theater of Harlem beginning at 8 p.m. (1-888)-GO-NJAC.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

RAHWAY — The Arts Guild of Rahway presents The Jazz '99 Series featuring The Bob Van Wyk Quintet beginning at 2 p.m. (732) 499-6228.

NEWARK — The African Globe Arts & Entertainment in association with Newark Symphony Hall presents "Fashion Show: Tour 2000" at the African Globe Theater located inside Newark Symphony Hall beginning at 3 p.m. (973) 624-1584.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis beginning at 7:30 p.m. (1-888)-GO-NJAC.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents the American Repertory Ballet Co. production of "An American Credo" beginning at 7 p.m. (732) 240-7469.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

BEVERLY — Four Sisters Winery at Matanzas Farms presents Spring Foliage Festival Show beginning at 1 p.m. (800) 475-3871.

NEWARK — The African Globe Arts & Entertainment in association with Newark Symphony Hall presents a gospel showcase concert at the African Globe Theater located inside Newark Symphony Hall beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 624-1584.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

NEW YORK — Jazz at Lincoln Center presents the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis at the Alice Tully Hall located in Lincoln Center beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 875-9599.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents the Mark Morris Dance Group beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 240-7469.

NEW YORK — Jazz at Lincoln Center presents jazz series for young people entitled "What is Hot" at the Apollo Theater beginning at 10:30 a.m. (212) 875-5083.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

SHORT HILLS — The East Orange Golf Course presents jazz singer Jackie Jones beginning at 5:30 p.m. (973) 878-1078.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the award-winning musical "Smiley Face's Cafe" beginning at 7:30 p.m. (1-888)-GO-NJAC.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

NEWARK — The Fashion Dome presents "The Dome After Dark" International Fashion Show at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) beginning at 7 p.m. (973) 242-0444.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

NEW YORK — Shore Fire Media presents comedian Ray Romano at Carnegie Hall beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 847-1900.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

NEW YORK — The Port Authority Cultural Department presents a salsa dance party at the Austin J. Tobin Plaza at the World Trade Center beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 435-4170.

'Girls Nite Out' on BET

NEW YORK — Black Entertainment Television (BET) will televise the premier episode of Girls Nite Out, a major musical performance event highlighting Arista recording artists Monica, Deborah Cox and Andrea Martin; Bad Boy Entertainment recording artist Faith Evans; and LaFace recording artist Shanice.

On Thursday, March 11, an unprecedented concert event featuring these artists was taped live at the BET Soundstage Nightclub (West End Stage) on Disney's Pleasure Island in Orlando. The concert special will premiere on BET throughout the month of May and June.

"We are very excited about this incredible opportunity to present these ground-breaking female artists in this way," said Lionel



"Girls Nite Out" to spotlight superstars (left to right) Faith Evans, Deborah Cox, Andrea Martin, Shanice, and Monica.

Poetic Justice



The African Heritage Network (AHN) Prime-Time Presentations hosted by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee presents the broadcast premiere of "Poetic Justice," a relevant and moving romance, which will air during the month of May only on AHN-Prime.

Janet Jackson (right) and the late Tupac Shakur star as Justice and Lucky, two young African Americans who are set against a backdrop of urban despair and loneliness as they struggle to find love, hope and ultimately, personal transformation. Poetic Justice is brought to you by Pepsi-Cola and airs on WWOR on May 9, 1999 at 8:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Rhythm & Soul series celebrates the 70's

NEW YORK — The golden age of '70s soul — East Coast and West Coast stylings — delivered with a club-side twist of disco rhythm in the final mix, heats up on five newly-mastered volumes of the Rhythm & Soul series. Legacy, a division of Sony Music, has scheduled all five releases for April 6th in-store dates.

The five titles include new compilations focusing on the hit-making machinery of the Philadelphia International label (DEEP GROOVE by MFSL and Me and Mrs. Jones: The Best of Billy Paul), two collections from the Columbia Records (Love Songs by The Emotions and Go Away Little Boy: The Saxes & Soul of Marlena Shaw), and the long-awaited reformation of Earth, Wind & Fire (Earth, Wind & Fire: The Best of Earth, Wind & Fire) featuring the massive #1 pop and R&B smash "Disco Lady" (the first million-selling single ever certified platinum by the RIAA).

As in previous editions of the Rhythm & Soul series, the new compilations contain fan-friendly Billboard Soul Singles and Blue Sky and chart signatures and felicitous artists' albums and studio productions with well-chosen tracks, informed by specially-commissioned liner notes by respected critics and journalists. This latest

batch, featuring such touchstones as the Emotions' "Don't Ask Me," Neighbors' "MFSL's" "Sexy" and "Love Is the Message" (in two versions), Billy Paul's "Me and Mrs. Jones," Marlena Shaw's "You-Ma" narration into "Go Away Little Boy" and Johnnie Taylor's "Disco Lady" classic L.P.

The Emotions' "Gettin' It" (featuring previously unreleased bonus versions of each), will surely satisfy the soul junkies of fans new and old.

These latest releases follow up last November's two entries in the Rhythm & Soul series: Midnight Love & The Sexual Healing Session by Marvin Gaye's double-CD chronicle of his final studio recordings for Columbia Records in 1982, and Gladys Knight & The Pips Live at the Roxy, a previously unusual concert recorded in 1980.

The 1999 Toyota Comedy Festival hits New York

NEW YORK — The Toyota Comedy Festival presents its seventh season with its biggest program ever of comedy New York-style from Thursday, June 3 through Saturday, June 12. Sponsored by the Greater New York Toyota Dealers Association, the ten-day festival will feature a stellar lineup of classic, alternative, and up and coming New York comedies in classic NY settings. The festival's centerpiece is the triumphant homecoming of Queens, NY native and "Everybody Loves Raymond" star Ray Romano for "An Evening with Ray Romano" at Carnegie Hall on Wednesday, June 9.

The menu of laughs offered by Festival producers Alan King, John Schreiber and George Wein offers comedy for every taste. From the quintessential Big Apple with ABC's "The View" star Joy Behar, to the off the wall brilliance of Steven Wright, to the sharp wit of New York's leading TV comedy writers to the hip, undeniably New York humor of "Homicide" star Richard Belzer, Stand-Up goddess Rita Rudner and New Yorker Magazine humorist Calvin Trillin, this year's series of performances, interviews and readings will amuse New Yorkers of all persuasions.

Comedy Central will again be the Festival's official TV network sponsor, and Comedy Central stars including The Upright Citizens Brigade, The Daily Show's Lewis Black, Dr. Katz's Todd Barry, and Pulp Comics' Dave Attell will be spotlighted at Festival performances.

World's best loved animated characters headline "Disney's Mickey Mouseworks"

It all began, and now continues, with a mouse.

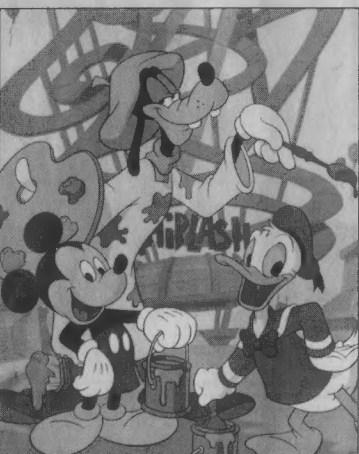
After a decade in which animated entertainment has been celebrated in feature-length films and television series, animation's original form — cartoon shorts — is now coming into its own with the premiere of "Disney's Mickey Mouseworks" from Walt Disney Television Animation.

The series started Saturday, May 1 (Noon ET/11 AM, PT) on ABC as part of the "Disney's One Saturday Morning" lineup.

"You could call this a series 70 years in the making," said Disney Hirschhorn, president, Walt Disney Television. "Mickey and his pals continue to delight and entertain fans all over the world — on film, in our theme parks, and on broadcast and cable television. And now in a television series featuring these beloved Disney characters in original, all-new shorts — the entertainment form in which they were created."

"Over the years, we've heard many pitches for TV series starring Mickey Mouse or other animated projects featuring Mickey and Minnie," says Barry Blumberg, executive vice president, Walt Disney Television Animation. "However, none of them were right — not until Bob and Tony came in to pitch 'Mickey Mouseworks.'"

"Bob and Tony" are Roberts Duck got together in "Disney's Mickey Mouseworks," starting May 1. Gannaway and Tony Craig, executive producers of "Mickey Mouseworks." The writer-animator team had already established a successful track record for Walt Disney Television Animation, producing two highly-rated, Emmy Award-winning seasons of "The Lion King's Timon & Pumbaa," and executive producing the Emmy-winning "101 Dalmatians: The Series" for ABC and syndication. Once greenlit, their idea of creating a contemporary series of cartoon shorts of varying lengths took them to the office of Roy E. Disney, vice chairman of the board, The Walt Disney Company. Working closely with Roy Disney has ensured that authenticity, accuracy and that spe-



It's a comedic roller coaster ride when Mickey Mouse, Goofy and Donald Duck get together in "Disney's Mickey Mouseworks," starting May 1.

"Disney touch" are prevalent within each cartoon. "Our mission is to create simple, funny, heart-felt cartoons," said Gannaway. "Our core audience is obviously children, but Mickey and his pals have fans of all ages, so we're placing them in situations everyone can relate to, laugh at and laugh with."

Gannaway and Craig head the first full-time animation crew to produce original cartoon shorts starring Mickey Mouse since the 1950s. Born on November 18, 1928 with the premiere of "Steamboat Willie," Mickey Mouse has appeared in more than 120 cartoon shorts and featurettes to date.

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Local Briefs

IPD Internal Affairs open at location

IRVINGTON — The internal affairs unit of the Irvington Police Department officially opened its new location, the Nye Avenue Municipal Parking Garage, Mayor Sara B. Bost announced.

The move of the unit from police headquarters on Civic Square to a "separate, distinct facility will enable citizens to easily access its services," Bost wrote in an invitation letter to the community. The new office is located at 561 Irvington, between Ball Street and Union Avenue.

Newark adds a 'lll' spice to its curriculum

NEWARK — Dayton Street School in Newark has introduced a new after-school program. The new 21st Century Learning Center Program, which was recently implemented at the school, has allowed for extended school hours with the aim of raising students' academic standards and enriching their lives.

Activities range from technology classes, cooking experiences, mathematics club, journalism, Spanish, karate, architecture, aerobics, instrumental music, health, nutrition and stress management. There are also technology and career clubs for parents.

Dow Jones High School Journalism workshop for minorities

MT. PLEASANT, MI — The Dow Jones High School Journalism Workshop for Minorities will take place July 16 through July 25 at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant. The workshop is a ten day, resident program designed to provide expert professional direction to students in writing and editing, and to give them a workshop knowledge of newspaper production. Send a self-addressed envelope to Dr. Alice A. Tait, Dow Jones Journalism Workshop, Dept. of Journalism, 34 Ansh Hall, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859. Telephone (517) 774-6603.

Mother's Day

continued from pg 1

A retired educator who worked two decades as a school administrator, she does much more than count. She has become a known speaker to women cancer patients, an avid photographer and a grant writing consultant, specializing in getting funding for youth programs.

Larry, 44, chooses to practice dentistry in a Harlem clinic rather than lucrative private practice. He recalls many nights watching her help the community, teaching home economics in Harlem housing projects or serving on NAACP committees to help young people.

"She has taught me to serve my people," Larry said. "Mother's day is an opportunity to honor and salute her for what she's done, not only for me, but for others."

She still exerts lots of effort for a 74-year-old. She says Leon, a motivational speaker in his own right, worries about her. "But that's his way of loving me."

Leon, who describes his mom as "strong, courageous and independent" is as impressed as anyone.

"Mom has given me quite a number of things including a strong and positive sense of who I am," Leon said. "Also, some strong lessons in how I can determine how the world really works."

While they're growing up, she took her sons to the best restaurants in town, and to RKO City Music Hall for the Christmas and Easter shows every year. "They needed that exposure," she said.

"Their dad thought I was spoiling them. But I wanted them to be exposed to everything out there, so they would be able to sit and eat with kings and queens."

She always encouraged them to take educational challenges like studying abroad in Paris, Japan, Germany and Romania. She says it's a key to raising the kids to be a well-rounded African-American man in society. "Our black men have to have extra, extra blackness. There are things you just never have done had you had exposure to certain things."

Occasionally, she'll get a bunch of letters or other tokens from Larry or Leon. Not long ago, a bouquet came with a card: "Just Because," it read.

But her married sons are such a joy for her, she says, "I'm celebrating Mother's Day all the time. When I can reach out to my sons, either one of them and say, 'I want to talk about this... it's just in being there for me.'"

In spite of the difficulties, she maintains, "My whole life just is a big celebration."

By Nancy Pappo

TRENTON (AP) — Working poor parents could get help with their child care bills, thanks to \$100 million in federal funding that state officials say they'll turn into day care vouchers over the next three years.

The \$100 million would be enough to subsidize day care to an estimated 7,500 children currently on waiting lists at centers around the state. Department of Human Services Commissioner Michele Gull told the Senate budget committee.

Gull testified during a hearing on the \$6.5 billion human services spending plan for the coming fiscal year, which starts July 1.

"This is really a quality of life issue," said Gov. Christie Whitman, who also announced the new subsidies during the Governor's Conference on Strengthening Families for the 21st Century.

"Since these families are working, most of them are paying for child care on their own, sometimes spending as much as 50 percent of their salary of it," Whitman said. "By helping to pay for their child care, we are providing a strong incentive to continue working, but at the same time giving working families a break."

The average monthly benefit would be \$300, which would be paid to daycare centers. Parents would have to pay between \$2 and \$48 per week, per child, depending on their income.

Eligible families would receive vouchers, giving them the choice of using either a child care center or a state-approved family daycare home. To be eligible, a family of three can earn up to \$27,700.

The parents who would benefit from the new subsidies are called welfare recipients. But, under new, more flexible federal regulations, states can use welfare money for programs aimed at preventing people from going on welfare.

The extra federal money comes with welfare black grants that have gone unused because few people are collecting welfare. New Jersey has mirrored national trends, watching its welfare rolls plummet to nearly half

what they were five years ago. Experts attribute that drop to a booming economy and tougher rules that make it more difficult to collect welfare.

New Jersey has about \$300 million in unused federal welfare funds. Gull said. The state will keep most of the money to provide preschool for children, although Gull said the plans to use some to expand transportation programs for former welfare recipients who have landed jobs. She didn't say how much.

The extra federal money comes at a good time. Whitman is under court order to provide preschool for children in 28 of the state's poorest school districts. She has ordered these districts to use daycare facilities, where-

ever possible, to educate these children. Some of the 7,500 children targeted in the new daycare initiative live in these poor districts, meaning the state will use federal money to help pay for a state-mandated program. State officials could not immediately say how many of the 7,500 children live in the "special needs" districts.

State officials had previously estimated that 20,000 children were waiting for subsidized daycare. But a recent survey of daycare centers around the state showed only 7,500 children in need of subsidized child care, Gull said.

Currently, the state spends \$231 million to provide child care for 55,300 children of welfare recipients and low-income families.

City News Sports

Boxing returns to Newark with a bang

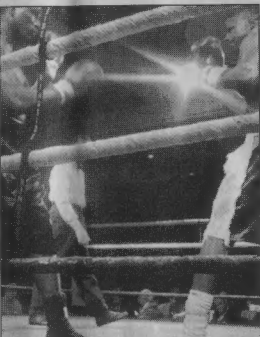
By Jean H. Pierre

NEWARK — Many cities around the country like to lay the claim as being the "capitol" of professional boxing. From Chicago to Las Vegas, everyone has said they're the place for action and excitement. But don't tell that to Newark, as thousands came out to the Robert Treat Hotel on April 28 to see the sport make its return to the Renaissance City.

"It's great being back in Newark where the sport has a big following," said Gabe LaConte of First Round Promotions, who along with Marc Roberts and his World Wide Entertainment Sports Company presented the eight fight card. "Look at the people who're here tonight. It's about community relations and families coming together. That makes all of the difference to this. This was the first event for the Newark based company at the famed hotel after a long six month lay off. The matches produced lack luster performances, especially from the heavyweight division where all four fights ended in early knockouts. But heavyweight Dan Musico of Nutley doesn't mind. "I'm not trying to stay in there and get killed. I'm looking for the early knockout," said Musico, who made quick work of Irvington's Christoval Colon in round one. He hopes to get a shot with the best fighters in the super middleweight class in the near future. "I showed everyone out there tonight that I'm the real thing. I want a piece of the pie sooner or later."

The best fight of the night came between welterweights Stephan Owens of Bronx, NY and New Jersey's own Lamar Carter. Owens landed several punches in the first two rounds, until Carter made a fury in round 3 with a combination of left and right jabs which propelled him to win the fight. "I wanted just my punches out, stop messing around, not mess him up," said Carter who improved his impressive record to 11-1. "It was a great fight. He's a good fighter. If he wants a rematch, so be it. I'm ready."

The card went with the traditional 10 point scoring system rather than the open scoring system, which was some of the talk with fight fans in and out of the hotel. The state hasn't decided if they'll implement the system, which was used recently at a boxing card in Washington, D.C. But one judge hopes that doesn't go



Heavyweights Isaac Brown (left) and David Bostice duke it out at the April 28 boxing card at Newark's legendary Robert Treat Hotel.

through. "It diminishes the whole concept of the game and the fight the fighters put in," said the judge who kept his anonymity. "Just because you had one bad night (Vander Holyfield-Lennox Lewis fiasco last month), everyone wants to change it to benefit a certain boxer they like. Everyone is human and makes mistakes. That's life."

Prison halfway house creates responsible citizens

By Karen Halliburton

Contributing Writer

ELIZABETH — An enthusiastic crowd turned out for the reception sponsored by the Volunteers of America — Greater New York region, Thursday, April 22 at the Elizabeth's Transitional Living Center. TLC is a halfway house in an intimate family-style home where an emphasis is placed on acquiring skills and behaviors that will reduce the odds of offenders returning to prison. The event entitled, "The Bridge to Freedom" commemorated the commitment to building a stronger community by building stronger people.

Keynote speaker and New Jersey Department of Corrections Commissioner Jack Terhune addressed the crowd asserting, "Building more jails is not necessarily the answer. We must address the causes of criminal behavior." It costs the state \$28,000 to house one inmate for one year. And 38,000 inmates are housed in 14 state prisons in NJ. Terhune says it is his job to make sure the ex-offenders do not return to the prisons. He believes this Transitional Living Center is a positive approach to having the residents regain society. TLC is one of 32 other similar community release programs in NJ. The Greater NY Volunteers of America

operates two other programs, one in Newark and the other in East Orange.

Qasim Nathari spearheaded the release program called OASIS — Offenders' Aid to Step Into Society. OASIS gives offenders the necessary tools so that they don't return to a life of crime. "We teach them how to write a resume, how to become and stay employed, how to conduct themselves in an interview, how to get a driver's license." All the things that an average citizen would take for granted. One of the 30 residents spoke from his heart, explaining how this program has given him self-esteem and renewed pride in himself.

The successful event was well attended and included: Richard Salari, President and CEO of Volunteers of America, Greater New York; Charlene Mason-Reese, Elizabeth Director of Department of Health and Human Services; Elizabeth Councilman Carlos Alamo; Council President Wayne Smith of Irvington; Tamika Riley, celebrity stylist.

When the residents leave they are armed with the knowledge to succeed in society. One resident, Arthur underscored the success of the community release program: "It's like becoming manageable when I used to be unmanageable."

NBA at Crossroads

By Gregory Moore

Contributing Writer

As far as quality of play is concerned, this season in the NBA has been uneven at best, an embarrassment at worst. Sloppy play, inconsistency of effort and poor team play are not just a function of the strike-shortened season, but rather symptoms of more serious fundamental problems which the league and its players must confront if they are to avoid squandering the goodwill created by players such as Julius Erving, Magic Johnson, Larry Bird and Michael Jordan.

During the late 1970's drug problems, financial instability and clumsy marketing efforts precipitated an eroding fan base which culminated in the 1980 NBA finals embarrassingly being telecast on tape delay. However, the emergence of the four aforementioned superstars provided fans with a reason to watch basketball and reintroduced them to the beauty of the game.

Erving's, Magic's, Bird's and Jordan's ability to attract fans was linked to four primary factors. First, all of these players were supremely talented. Second, each played the game with a unique flair and charisma. Third, the emergence of cable television outlets such as ESPN and CNN helped the extremely talented NBA game unprecedented nightly coverage. And fourth, Erving, Magic, Bird and Jordan so loved the game and played it with such a passion that even the most casual sports fans were forced to take notice. The fact that these four players were so intensely about every game made us, the average fan, more interested in direct proportion to theirs. This enthusiasm which they brought to the game was infectious. They infected their teammates, the league, fans, and the bottom line which in turn, has directly resulted in the huge salaries that players are being paid today.

Although I strongly encourage athletes to get all the cash, it is clear that money has undermined the quality of play in all sports generally and in the NBA in particular — as basketball players are the highest paid athletes in the world. With few exceptions many NBA players/most holdovers from a bygone era like Charles Barkley, Karl Malone, John Stockton, Patrick Ewing, etc.) appear more concerned with their endorsement deals, more fascinated with their cell phones and exotic cars, more preoccupied with the general trappings of their enormous salaries than they are preoccupied with winning.

We now have entered the era of NBA early retirement/severance. Suns guard Kevin Johnson who retired last year despite his standing as one of the league's top guards. Players like Shaquille O'Neal openly talk of retiring early if they get the chance to win an NBA championship. Imagine the impact of Shaq, one of the game's most marketable players, retiring at around 29 or 30 years of age. Players like Shaq and Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant and Andre Iversen are given so much so soon that by the time they reach 30 all of them will be approached for or surpassing individual net worth of 100 million dollars. And what do people do when they accumulate that much money and don't really enjoy their jobs? You guessed it: retire or demonstrate a lack of commitment to their jobs during the years leading up to retirement.

Unlike the NBA and its players can rediscover the love of the game which prompted them to take up the sport in the first place. The golden goal, which in great measure was created by Erving, Magic, Bird and Jordan may soon perish under the weight of her own 24 karat eggs.

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